

# The twelve days of Christmas

18<sup>th</sup> century English traditional carol

Arranged by IAIN HALLAM

Collected by FREDERIC W. AUSTIN (1872–1952)

\* Optionally have tenor and bass replace soprano and alto down an octave in some counting sections, e.g., for “French hens” on page 1, and all odd verses on pages 2–4 (all parts still sing the numbers themselves).

## Allegretto

### VERSE 1

V. 4 To Coda 1  
(p. 2)

S. 1. On the first day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me a par - tridge in a pear tree.

A. 1. On the first day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me a par-tridge in a pear tree.

T. 1. On the first day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me a par-tridge in a pear tree.

B. 1. On the first day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me a par-tridge in a pear tree.

### VERSES 2-4

S. 2-4. On the second day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: two tur-tle doves, and a third French hens, third fourth

A. 2-4. On the second day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: two tur-tle doves, and a third French hens, third fourth

T. 2-4. On the second day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: two and a three \*

B. 2-4. On the second day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: two and a three \*

S. two tur-tle doves, and a four col-ly birds, three French hens, two tur-tle doves, and a

A. two tur-tle doves, and a four col-ly birds, three French hens, two tur-tle doves, and a

T. two and a four three two and a

B. two and a four three two and a

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Coda 1 VERSE 5

13

S. 5. On the fifth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: five gold\_ rings,

A. 5. On the fifth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: five gold\_ rings,

T. 5. On the fifth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: five gold\_ rings,

B. 5. On the fifth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: five gold, gol - den rings,

V. 11 To Coda 2  
(p. 4)

S. 17 four col-ly birds, three French hens, two\_ tur-tle doves, and a par - tridge in a pear tree.

A. four col-ly birds, three French hens, two\_ tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.

T. 8 four col-ly birds three French hens, two\_ tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.

B. four col-ly birds, three French hens, two\_ tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.

VERSES 6-11

22

S. 6-11. On the sixth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: six geese a-lay-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming,  
...  
eleventh

A. 6-11. On the sixth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: six geese a-lay-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming,  
...  
eleventh

T. 8 6-11. On the sixth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: six seven  
...  
eleventh

B. 6-11. On the sixth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me: six seven  
...  
eleventh

26 **8.** **9.**

S. six geese a-lay-ing, eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing,

A. six geese a-lay-ing, eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing,

T. six eight seven six nine

B. six eight seven six nine

31 **10.**

S. eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, ten lords a-leap-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing,

A. eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, ten lords a-leap-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing,

T. eight seven six ten nine

B. eight seven six ten nine

36 **11.**

S. eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, eleven pi-pers pi-ping, ten lords a-leap-ing,

A. eight maids a-milk-ing, seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, eleven pi-pers pi-ping, ten lords a-leap-ing,

T. eight seven six eleven ten

B. eight seven six eleven ten

41 **D.S. al Coda**

S. nine la - dies dan-cing, eight maids a - milk-ing, seven swans a - swim-ming, six geese a - lay -ing,

A. nine la - dies dan-cing, eight maids a - milk-ing, seven swans a - swim-ming, six geese a - lay -ing,

T. nine eight seven six

B. nine eight seven six

VERSE 12

45 **più lento** **rit.** **Allegro**

S. tree. On the twelfth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me twelve drum-mers drum-ming,

A. tree. On the twelfth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me twelve drum-mers drum-ming,

T. tree. On the twelfth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me twelve

B. tree. On the twelfth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me twelve

49

S. eleven pi-pers pi-ping, ten lords a-leap-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing, eight maids a-milk-ing,

A. eleven pi-pers pi-ping, ten lords a-leap-ing, nine la-dies dan-cing, eight maids a-milk-ing,

T. eleven ten nine eight

B. eleven ten nine eight

53 **molto rit.** **Maestoso**

S. seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, five gold-rings, four col-ly birds,

A. seven swans a-swim-ming, six geese a-lay-ing, five gold-rings, four col-ly birds,

T. seven six five gold-rings, four col-ly birds

B. seven six five gold-gold-en rings, four col-ly birds,

58 **molto rit.**

S. three French hens, two-tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.

A. three French hens, two-tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.

T. three French hens, two-tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree, pear tree.

B. three French hens, two-tur-tle doves, and a par-tridge in a pear tree.